IS thy wit quicke?
Then do not sticke
To read these Riddles
darke:
Which if thou doe,
And rightly too,
Thou art a witty
Sparke.

THE BOOKE OF MEERY. Riddles.

Together with proper Questions, and witty Prouerbs to make pleasant pastime.

No lesse vsefull then behoouefull for any yong man or child, to know if he be quick-witted, or no.

LONDON,
Printed by *T. C.* for *Michael Sparke*, dwelling in *Greene-Arbor*, at the signe of the blue Bible. 1629.

Here beginneth the first Riddle.

Two legs sat vpon thre legs, and had one leg in her hand, then in came foure legs and bere away one leg, then vp start two legs, and threw thre legs at foure legs, and brought againe one leg.

Solution.

That is a woman with two legs, sate on a stoole with thre legs, and had a leg of mutton in her hand, then came a dog that hath foure legs and bare away the leg of mutton, then vp start the woman, & threw the stoole with thre legs, at the dog with foure legs, and brought againe the leg of mutton.

The second Riddle.

He went to the wood and caught it,
He sate him downe and sought it,
Because he could not finde it,
Home with him he brought it.

Solution.

That is a thorne: for a man went to the wood, and caught a thorne in his foot, and then he sate him down, and sought to haue pulled it out, and because he could not find it out, he must néeds bring it home.

The 3. Riddle

What work is that, the faster ye worke, longer it is ere ye haue done, & the slower ye worke, the sooner ye make an end.

Solution.

That is turning of a spit: for if ye turne fast, it will be long ere the meat be rosted, but if ye turn slowly the sooner it is rosted.

The 4 Riddle.

What is that that shineth bright all day, and at nigh is raked vp in it owne dirt.

Solution.

That is the fire that burneth brigh all the day, and at night is raked vp in his ashes

The 5. Riddle.

I haue a trée of great honor.
Which trée beareth both fruit and flower.
Twelue branches this trée hath nake,
Fifty nests there in be make,
And euery nest hath birds seauen.
Thanked be the King of heauen:
And euery bird hath a diuers name.

How

How may all this together frame?

Solution.

The tree is the yeare, the twelue braunches, be the twelue moneths, the fifty two nests be the fifty two weekes, the seuen birds be the seuen dayes in the weeke, whereof euery one hath a diuers name.

The 6 Riddle.

What is that that is rough within, & red without, and prickled like a bares snowt: there is neuer a Lady in this land, but will be content to take it in her hand.

Solution.

It is an Eglantine berry, which is rough within, and red without, and hath prickles on the top.

The 7 Riddle.

What Kings, Quéenes, & their seruants be they, that be burnt once a yéere, and be cut and torne as small as flesh to pot.

Solution.

Those be the Kings, Quéenes, and Marlets among the cards, which be some burned, some torne, and some cut.

The 8. Riddle.

What is that, that hath his belly full of mans meat, and his mouth full of dirt.

It is an Ouen when it is full of bread, or pies, for that is mans meat, and the ouens mouth is then closed with dirt.

The 9. Riddle.

What is that that hath a beard of flesh, a mouth of horne, and fete like a Gryffon.

Solution.

That is a Cocke for his beard is flesh, his bill horne, and his fete like a Gryffon.

The 10. Riddle.

What is that, the more ye lay on, the faster it wasteth.

Solution.

That is a whetstone. for the more ye whet the lesse is the whetstone.

The 11. Riddle.

Of what faculty be they, that every night turne the skins of dead beasts.

Solution.

Those be the fryers, for every night at Mattens, they turne the leaues of their parchment bookes, that be made of sheepe skins or calue skins?

The 12. Riddle.

Two blacke
Leapt ouer the lake
With their mouthes full of mens bones.

Solu-

Solution.

That is a payre of shooes on a mans feet, when a man leapes ouer a lake for they be blacke, and they are within full of mans flesh and bones.

13. Riddle.

Three prisoners such as it was,
Were shut vp in a prison of a glasse,
The one son doore was made of bread,
And yet they were for hunger dead.

Solution.

Those were three flyes that were shut vp in a glasse, and the mouth of it stopped with a peece of bread.

The 14. Riddle.

Little boy hunting,
Sate on the house railing,
With a bow and a bolt,
Slayeth the King and all his folke.

Solution.

This is Death, which slaieth Kings, princes, Dukes Earles, Gentlemen, and euery liuing creature.

The 15. Riddle.

Yonder side sea there is a Mote,
The Kings daughter of England, there she sate:
And if you tell her name, no man it wot,

What

What is the maids name that sate in the boate?

Solution.

Her name is Anne, for in the fourth line it saith An if ye tell me her name, but this riddle is not to be seene on the booke, but to be put without the booke, or else it will be soone vnderstood.

The 16. Riddle.

M. and I. made great mone,
When C. vpon C. was left alone.

Solution.

That is Mary and Iohn made great mone when Christ on a Crosse was left alone. For Mary beginneth with M. Iohn beginneth with I. Christ beginneth with C. and Crosse beginneth with C. This Riddle may be put another way, & that is this: A thousand and one made great mone, when a hundred on a hundred was left alone: for M. is for a thousand, and I. is for one, and C. for a hundred. and then is M. for Mary, I for Iohn, C. for Christ, & then is the riddle very defase.

The 17 Riddle.

Who bare the best burthen that euer was borne, at any time since, or at any time before.

So-

Solution

It was the Asse that bare both our Lady and her sonne out of Egypt.

The 18. Riddle.

What is the most profitable beast, and that men eat least on.

Solution.

It is a Bée, for it maketh both honey and ware, and yet costeth his Master nothing the keping.

The 19. Riddle.

I am without it, and yet I haue it,
Tell me what it is, and pray God saue it.

Solution.

It is my heart, for I am without it, séeing that it is within me, for ye may not vnderstand by the riddle, that I lacke it.

The 20. Riddle

What is that is like a Wede,
And is not past a handfull breede,
And hath a voyce like a man,
You will tell this, but I know not when.

Solution.

It is little Hopingay, for it is grene like a Wede, and is not past a handfull broad, and it speaketh like a man.

The 21. Riddle.

L. and V. and C. and I.

So

So light my Lady at the Font-stone.

Solution.

Her name is Lucy, for in the first line is L. V. C. I. which is Lucy: but this riddle must be put & read thus fifty and fiue, a hundred and one: then is the riddle very proper. for L. standeth for fifty, and V. for fiue, C. for an hundred, and I. for one.

The 22 Riddle.

What is that one seeketh for, and would not finde.

Solution.

That is a hole in his shoe, or a pe[illegible] of pilgrims salue on a sore boord, when hee commeth darkling in the night.

The 23 Riddle.

What is that I wish for, and would not haue?

Solution.

That is heauen, for many a man wisheth that he were in heauen: and though they knew sure that they should goe thither straightway, yet would they bee loath to dy and go thither. And this riddle may be soiled another way, as when a man or woman doth say a vengeance or a pestilence on her child, or seruant, or wisheth them dead, yet would be loath it were so.

Marry

Marry perraſe if ſome woman wiſh ſuch a wiſh to her huſband, then peraduenture this riddle could not thereby be aſſoyled.

The 24 Riddle.

What is that as high as a hall, as bitter as gall, as ſoft as ſilke, as white as milke

Solution.

That is a walnut, for it groweth as hie as a hall, and the ſhell is as bitter as gall, & the rinde that couereth the kernell, is as ſilke, and the kernell is as white as milk.

The 25. Riddle.

What was he that ſlew the fourth part of the world?

Solution.

That was Caine, when he ſlew his Brother Abel, for then there were no more perſons in the world but foure, that was Adam, Eue, Cain, and Abel.

The 26 Riddle.

What three heads be they that vphold the world?

Solution.

Thoſe be the hammer head, the plough head, and the head that multiplieth the world.

The 27 Riddle.

What is he that getteth his liuing backwards?

So-

Solution.

It is a Rope-maker, for as he maketh his ropes, he goeth backward.

The 28. Riddle.

Five brethren were bred at ones,
Without any flesh, blood or bones,
Two haue beards, and two haue none,
The fift haue but halfe a one.

Solution.

The five brethren, be five greene barbs vnder the rose leaues, which spring all at one time, two of them haue bristles like vnto beards on the edges, and the other two haue none, but bee plaine on the edges, and the fift is bristled or bearded on the one side, and plaine on the other.

The 29 Riddle.

What is it that goeth to the water, and leaueth his guts at home?

Solution.

It is a pillow-beere, for when it goeth to washing the pillow and the feathers bee left at home.

The 30 Riddle.

What is it that goes to the water on the head.

Solution.

It is a horse-shoo naile.

The

The 31. Riddle.

What is it that goes to the water, & the first that toucheth the water is the arse.

Solution.

It is a bucket or paile in a well.

The 32 Riddle.

What be they which be full all day, and empty at night.

Solution.

It is a payre of shoes, for in the day they be full of mans feete, but at night when he goes to bed, they be empty, & it may be assoyled by any other part of mans raiment

The 33 Riddle.

Who is he which eates his mother in his grandams belly?

Solution.

It is the worme in a nut, for of the kernell of the nut commeth the worme, therefore the kernell is here taken for the mother of the worme: and of the shell the kernell commeth, and therefore the shel is here taken for the mother of the kernell, and the grandam of the worme.

The 34 Riddle.

Who is hee that runneth through the hedge and bighouse on his backe.

So-

Solution.

That is a Snaile, which whereseuer he goeth, carryeth his house on his backe.

The 35. Riddle.

Of what poore man is a mans almes the worst bestowed?

Solution.

Of a blinde man for he would with good will see him hanged that giueth him the almes.

The 36 Riddle.

What folke bee they that loue not to bee prayed for?

Solution.

They be beggers, and poore folke, when men say, I pray God help you.

The 37 Riddle.

Ten mens strength and ten mens length and ten men cannot set it on end, yet one man may beare it?

Solution.

That is a rope or cable of ten fathom long or more, which ten men cannot set on end nor ten score, nor ten thousand.

The 38. Riddle.

I gathered apples in a garden, and ere I could get out, I paid tole for them at three gates. At the first gate I paid halfe the apples

ples that I had gathered & one more, and at the nert gate I paid halfe the apples that I had left, and one more, and at the third gate I paid halfe the apples that I had left, and one more, and when I came out I had but one apple left: tell me now how many apples I gathered in all.

Solution.

He gathered in all xvii apples, for at the first gate he paid xi that was halfe, & one more, that was vii so he had left v. then at the second gate he paid iii. that was halfe, and one more, that was fiv, so he had left foure, and at the last gate he paid two, that was halfe, and one more, that was three, so he had one left.

The 39. Riddle.

What is that which 20. will goe into a Tankard, and one will fill a Barne.

Solution.

It is 20 candles not lighted, and one lighted.

The 40 Riddle.

There is a rocke, there is a reele, there is an old spinning wheele: there is a bare shining bone, such a riddle you have none.

Solution.

It is a woman.

The 40. Riddle.

On grene grasse I go, and on Oken beames I stand, I ride on a mule that was newer solde, and I hold the damme in my hand.

Solution.

It is a Sole ridden on, cut out of the dammes belly, and a bridle made of her skinne.

The 41. Riddle.

What is it that standeth on this side the wode, and loketh ouer the wood.

Solution.

It is a Sow that hath a yoke about her necke, for feete be on this side the wood, and her head is ouer the wood.

The 42. Riddle.

What is it goeth to the wood, and his head home ward.

Solution.

It is an axe hanging vpon a mans backe, when he goeth to the wood.

The 43. Riddle.

What is that goeth to the wood, and carieth his way on his necke.

Solution.

It is a man that goeth to the wood to fell boughes, and carrieth a ladder to get vp.

The

The 44. Riddle.

I came to a tree where were Apples, I eat no apples, I gaue away no apples, nor I left no apples behinde me And yet I eat, gaue away and left behinde me.

Solution.

There were three apples on the tree, for I eat one apple, gaue away one Apple, and left one. So I eat no apples, for I eat but one apple which is no apples, and thus I gaue away no apples, for I gaue but one, and thus I left no apples, for I left but one.

The 45. Riddle.

What is that as small as a nit,
And serues the King at euery bit.

Solution

It is salt.

The 46. Riddle.

A water there is which I must passe,
A broader water there neuer was,
And yet of all waters I euer see,
To passe it ouer is least ieoperdie.

Solution

It is the deewe, for that lyeth ouer all the worlde.

The 47. Riddle.

What is that the more it is, the lesse men

feare it, and the lesse it is, the more men dread it.

Solution.

It is a bridge, for if it be little wee are afraid to goe ouer it, but if it be bigge, we feare no more to go ouer it, then on the ground.

The 48. Riddle.

I bought a brace of hounds for my Lords grace, & when I departed from his place, I neither left them there, nor take them with me, this marueilous thing how may it be.

Solution.

I left one of the greyhounds there, & take the other with me. so then I neither left them there, nor take them with me.

The 49. Riddle.

Here I haue it, and yonder I see it.

Solution.

It is my breath in a misty morning, for here I haue it in my mouth, and yonder I see it a yard from me.

The 50. Riddle.

What is it that is higher then a house,
And yet seemes much lesser then a mouse.

Solution

It is a starre in the skie.

The

The 51 Riddle.

By louers will
I am content for to fulfill,
Within this rime his name is framed,
Tell me then how he is named.

Solution.

His name is William, for in the firſt line
is will, and in the beginning of the ſecond
line is I am, and then put them both to-
gether, and it maketh William.

The 52. Riddle.

What is that is white as ſnow,
And yet as blacke as any crow:
And more pliant then a wand,
And is tied in a ſilken band,
And euery day a Princes pære,
Loketh vpon it with lad cheare.

Solution.

It is a booke tyed with a ſilken lace, for
the paper is white as ſnow, and the inke
is as blacke as a crow, and the leaues
more pliant then a wand.

53. Riddle.

What ſpace is from the higheſt of the ſea
to the bottome.

Solution.

Stones caſt, for a ſtone throwne in, be it
neuer ſo deepe will go to the bottome.

The 54. Riddle.

How many calues tailes will reach to the skye.

Solution.

One if it be long enough.

The 55 Riddle.

Mary an Christ loued very well,
My Ladies name here I doe tell,
Yet is her name neither Christ nor Mary
Tell me her name then, and do not tarry

Solution.

Her name is Marian, for in the beginning it is said, Mary an Christ: but this riddle is to be put without the booke, and not to be read, or else it will none be perceiued.

56. Riddle.

What is that as white as milke,
As soft as silke,
As blacke as a coale.
And hops in the street like a red foale.

Solution.

It is a Pye that hoppeth in the street, for part of her feathers be white, and part blacke.

The 57. Riddle.

What is that goeth about the wood and cannot get in.

So-

Solution.

It is the barke of a tree, for neuer is the barke within the tree, but alwayes without.

The 58 Riddle.

What is that goeth through the wood, and leaueth on euery bush a rag.

Solution.

It is snow.

The 59. Riddle.

I sent my cooke to market, and gaue him twelue pēce, & bad him bestow the twelue pence vpon twelue birds, that is, vpon capon, hens, woodcocks, and larks: and bad him pay for capon foure pence a pēce, hen two pence a pece, woodcocke a halfepenny a pece, larke a farthing a pēce. Now tell me how many capons he should buy, how many hens, how many woodcockes, and how many larkes.

Solution.

He must buy one capon, two hens, seuen woodcockes, and two larkes.

The 60 Riddle.

What is it goes through thicke and thin, And drawes his guts after him.

Solution.

It is an Needle that goeth through thicke and

and

and thin cloth, drawing the thred after it, which is taken for the guts.

The 61. Riddle.

What was he that was begotten ere his father, borne ere his mother, and had the maidenhead of his grandame.

Solution.

It is Abell, for Adam his father was not begotten, nor Eue his mother was not borne, and he was the first that was buried in the earth his grandame.

The 62. Riddle.

What was he that made all, and sold all, and he that bought all and lost all.

Solution.

The Smith made the aul and sold the aul, and the Shoomaker bought the aul, and lost the aul.

The 63. Riddle.

What is that no man would haue, and yet when he hath it will not forgoe it.

Solution

It is a broken head, or such like, for no man would gladly haue a broken head, & yet when he hath it, he would be loath to lose his head, though it be broken.

The 64. Riddle.

What is that I can hold in my hand, and will

will not lye in a great cheſt.

Solution.

It is a long Speare.

The 65. Riddle.

What is that round as a ball,
Longer then Pauls Steeple weather-cocke and all.

Solution.

It is a round bottome of threed when it is vnwound.

The 66 Riddle.

Downe in a meddow I haue two ſwine, the more meat I giue them, the lowder they cry, the leſſe meat I giue them, the ſtiller they lye.

Solution.

Theſe be two millſtones, which the more they grind, the more noyſe they make, and they be called ſwine here, becauſe ſwine be fed with corne, and ſo be they.

The 67. Riddle.

What is that, that goeth thorow the wood and toucheth neuer a twig.

Solution.

It is the blaſt of a horne, or any other noyſe.

The 68 Riddle.

What is that, that hath fiue legs on the

one

one side, and three on the other.
Heads three, eares fiue, and two things like my mother.
And yet such another thing as hath my brother.

Solution.

It is a man and a woman vpon a Mares backe.

The 69. Riddle.

Beyond the sea there is an oake,
And in that oake there is a nest,
And in that nest there is an egge,
And in that egge there is a yolke,
Which cals together Christian folke.

Solution.

It is a clapper in a bell within a steeple, for the church is taken for the oake, the steeple is taken for the nest, the bell is taken for the egge, and the clapper is taken for the yolke.

The 70 Riddle.

Downe in a dale there sits and stands
Eight legs, and two hands,
Liuers and lights, and liues three,
I count him wise, that tels this to me.

Solution.

It is a man riding on horsebacke, and hauing a hawke sitting on his hand.

The

The 71 Riddle.

Walking abroad to take the ayre,
I met two Ladyes bright and fayre.
Two pretty boyes by the hand they led,
And thus vnto them both I said,
O ye fayre Ladyes I pray you tell me,
By nature & kind whose children they be.

Their Answere.

Gentleman, if yee will the truth know plaine.
The sonnes of our sons they be certaine,
Brothers to our husbands they be ywis,
And each of them vnto the other vncle is,
Begotten and borne in wedlocke they be,
And we are their mothers we tell you (truly.

Solution.

These two Gentlewomen had two sons, the one Thomas, and the other William: Thomas maried Williams mother, and William maried Thomas his mother, and eyther of them had a son by their wiues, which sonnes must needs be the sonnes of their sons, brothers to their husbands, the one vncle to the other, & they their lawfull mothers.

The 72. Riddle.

Ouer a water I must passe, & I must car-

ry

ry ouer a lamb, a wolfe, and a bottle of hay, if I carry any more then one at once my boate will sinke: if I carry ouer the bottle of hay first, and leaue the lambe and the wolfe together, the wolfe will carry away my lambe: if I carry ouer the wolfe first, the lambe will eate my bottle of hay: now would I know how I should cary them ouer, so that I leaue not the lambe with the wolfe, nor the bottle of hay with the lambe on neither side.

Solution.

First cary ouer the lambe, and then come againe and fetch the wolfe, and bring the lambe backe againe on the other side, and then take the bottle of hay and cary it, and then fetch ouer the lambe, and so the question is assoyled.

The 73 Riddle.

There were two fathers a hunting went,
And their two sonnes for the same intent.
They caught conies in all but three:
Yet euery one had one, how that may be.

Solution.

One of the sonnes had a sonne, thus he is father, and standeth both for the father and the sonne.

The

The 74. Riddle

I conſume my mother that bare me, I eat my nurſe that fed me, then I dye leauing all blinde that ſaw me.

Solution.

Meant of the flame of a candle, which hauing conſumed both ware & wicke goeth out, leauing them in the darke that ſaw by it.

The 75. Riddle.

As long as I liue I eate, but when I drinke I dye.

Solution.

It is the fire, which continueth while it hath matter to burne, but is put out with water.

The 76. Riddle.

Ten thouſand children beautifull
of this my body bred,
Both ſonnes and daughters finely decke,
I liue and they are dead:
My ſonnes were put to extreame death,
by ſuch as loued them well,
My daughters dyed with extreame age,
but where I cannot tell.

Solution.

The mother is a tree, the ſonnes the fruit, and the daughters leaues.

Long

Iohn Gooſe.

LOng time ſince, when men eat butterd peaſon with a ſpoon,
I had a man vnto my father borne vnder the moone,
His name was *Tom Gooſe*, this is true indeed,
when he could liue no longer, he fell ſicke and dyed.
And within foure dayes after, when he was laid in graue,
my mother would another husband haue,
The more husbands the better lucke, ſome wiues will ſay the ſame
and then maryed ſhe one, *Ducke Ducke* was his name.
A widower he was, and had a Daughter called *Ione*,
ſhe was a merry one, and a minion mincer alone.
She was my ſiſter, and I was her brother,
by Law it was ſo, it could be none other.
And my mother did loue him as the Turtle Dove,
yet at length my father dyed for loue.
Then ſaid my mother, though I haue two husband wed,
I muſt liue by the quicke (quoth ſhe) and not by the dead.
Yet was ſhe rough and toothleſſe, ſhort tale to make,
and maryed the third husband called *Iohn Drake*,
He loued her right well, and had his owne wiſhing,
for within ten dayes he killed her with kiſſing.
Then would he haue a young woman to lengthen his life,
and fell in loue with my ſiſter *Ione*, and tooke her to wife.
After that I could not chuſe, though before I was her brother,
but iuſtly as became me I called her mother.
At length he was iealous and ſhe perceiued his blindneſſe,
whereupon within a few dayes ſhe killed him with kindneſſe.
After he was dead, then did my mother *Ducke*,
take me to her husband, me thought I had ſtrange lucke,
Becauſe firſt ſhe was my ſiſter *Ione*, and I *Iohn* her brother,
and after *Iohn* her ſonne and ſhe *Ione* my mother.
Now am I *Iohn* her husband, and ſhe *Ione* my wife,
we *Iohn Gooſe* and *Ione Ducke* together muſt lead our life.

Now if you haue marked
what to you I haue told,
How this demand is true,
you may be bold.

Proper Queſtions.

The firſt Queſtion.

I Bought three peny-worth of eggs lately
and for euery penny had a like many:
And after gaue them in almes anone
vnto three beggers euery one.
Some to the begger that asked me firſt,
the ſecond had twiſe ſo many tuſt.
The third begger that there I found,
had twiſe as many as the ſecond.
Now anſwer me to this queſtion ſhortly,
how many eggs had I for a penny?
And how many eggs after the rate,
that euery begger had for his part?

Solution.

I bought ſeuen egs for euery penny, & the firſt begger had three eggs, the ſecond fiue eggs, & the third begger had twelue eggs.

The 2 Queſtion.

Two men that had in their purſes mony,
the one to the other thus did ſay.
Put one of the pence of thy purſe in mine,
then is in my purſe as much as in thine.
Nay quoth the other I pray the do thus,
put

put one of thy pence into my purse,
Then haue I double as much as thou.
what was in both their purses say ye.

Solution.

The one of them had v pence in his purse & the other had vii. pence in his purse, & so the question is assoiled. But if ye make the question, take alwayes ii. pence, then the numbers must be x & xiiii of iii. d. xv. & one and 20. and so alway proceede forth.

The 3 Question.

A fisher a hundred of herrings did buy
after the rate of two for a penny:
And bought an hundred in another place,
three for a penny neither more nor lesse.
He put them together, and sold anon,
still fiue for two pence, till all were gone,
Now in that bargaine I thinke that he,
either won or lost, how say ye.

Solution.

Account euer sixscore to the hundred, and reckon then, and ye shall find that he hath lost thereby, euen foure pence.

The 4. Question.

Another question I wold faine define
I wedded thy mother & thou wedst
By my wife I had a son soone after. (mine
& thou vpon thy wife begatst a daughter.

This

This question fain would I know of thee
What kin together these children be.

Solution.

The sonne was uncle to the daughter, because that his brother was her father: also the daughter was aunt to the son, because her brother was his father.

The 5 Question.

A Bacheler come a mans wife until,
praying her his carnall lust to fulfill,
she sware a great oath as touching that sin
She would never offend with him therein
She kept her oath so undefiled,
That sone after he got her with childe.

Solution.

Her husband dyed first, and after that the bacheler maryed her, and had a child by her lawfully.

The 6 Question.

I know a man which in his life
begat a child on his owne wife:
And when it was born his hart was done
he loked upon it, it was not his sonne.

Solution.

The child that hee begot vpon his wife was a daughter.

The 7. Question.

A Mayre of gloues a man once bought,
And them vnto three sisters brought,
Saying, cast lots for some of you three
shall weare these gloues for loue of me,
How might this saying be verified there,
yet none of them all did them weare.

Solution.

One of the sisters ware the one glous, and another ware the other.

The 8. Question.

A Soldier that to black heath field went,
prayed an astronomer of his iudgment;
Which wrote these words to him plainly
thou shalt goe thither well and safely:
And from thence come home alive againe
never at that field thou shalt be slaine.
The soldier was slaine there at that field,
and yet the Astronomer his promise held

Solution.

The pointing of the words is the solution

as

as thus: Thou shalt go thither well and safely, and from thence come againe neuer: at that field shalt thou be slaine.

The 9. Question.

IN Eller I know a place right well,
where men buy Oysters by the bushel:
For euery bushell foure pence they pay,
and yet for all that the buyers may
For two pence a bushell sell them againe,
all by one measure, & yet haue good gain.

Solution.

They buy these oysters when they be very small, and keepe them in creekes of the salt water a yere or two, till they be great e then one bushell will make fiue bushels.

The 10 Question.

I Know a child borne by my mother,
naturally borne as other children be,
That is neither my sister, nor my brother
answer me shortly what is he?

Solution.

It is the person that speakes the words: for he is neither brother nor sister to himselfe:

The 13 Question.

A Vessell of wine me standeth by,
of eight gallons full by the eye:
Another of fiue gallons, another of three,
but these twaine both empty be,
Mete foure gallons of this wine truly,
and thereto no other vessell occuppy.

Solution.

First fill the fiue gallon vessell full, & then fill the three gallon vessell full out of the said fiue gallon vessell. which done put the three gallons in the three gallon vessell into the eight gallon vessell to the three that were left: then put the two that remained in the fiue gallon vessell into the three gallon vessell: then fill the fiue gallon vessell out of the eight, and then with the fiue gallon vessell fill vp the three gallon vessell. which having two gallons in it before, can but receiue one gallon, and so leaueth foure gallons in the fiue gallon vessell, which is your desire.

The 14 Question.

A Fish was taken some others among which had a head of three foot long.

And

And the taile was as long truly
as the head and halfe the body:
And yet was the body without faile
as long as the head and tayle.
This queſtion here I pray thee tell,
How long was the fiſh here euery deale.

Solution.

The taile of the fiſh was nine fot long, & the body was twelue fot long: becauſe the head was three fot long, therefore the length of the whole Fiſh was foure and twenty fot long.

The 15 Queſtion.

A Widow with her horſe and maid at Douer,
Prayed a Shipman into France to bring them ouer.
He ſware that neither widow, horſe, nor maide,
Should into France for him be conueid:
How might his oath there ſaued be,
Yet in his ſhip into France hee brought them all three.

Solution.

The widow was maryed, the maid loſt

her maidenhead, & the horse was gelded: and then the shipman caryed them ouer together in his ship, and so saued his oath which he had taken before.

The 16. Question.

O Ma said, God sped dame with thy geese twenty,
Nay sir, said she, I haue not so many:
But if that I had as many moe
as I haue and halfe as many thereto,
And ouer that halfe, halfe as many,
and twa geese & a half, then had I twenty.
How many geese had she truely?

Choice

Choice and witty *Prouerbs.*

1 SO great is the ill that doth not hurt me, as is the good that doth not helpe me.

2 He that for the new leaueth the olde way, oftentimes is found to go astray.

3 Giuen is dead, and restored is nought.

4 Conceale not the truth from thy Physitian and Lawyer.

5 A young Barbar, and an old Physitian.

6 To looke for, and not to come: to be in bed, and not to sleepe: to serue, and not to be accepted are three tedious things.

7 He that will not endure labour in this world, let him not be borne.

8 There is no vertue that pouerty destroyeth not.

9 The abundance of things ingendreth distastfulnesse.

10 He that sitteth well, thinketh ill.
11 The mirth of the world dureth but a while.
12 He that vseth mee better then his is wont, hath betrayed me, or will betray me
13 He that doth not that which he ought that hapts to him which he neuer thought.
14 He that hath time hath life.
15 All weapons of war cannot arme fear.
16 He helps little that helpeth not himselfe.
17 So much is mine as I possesse, and giue or lose for Gods sake.
18 Chuse not a woman, nor linnen cloth by a candle.
19 Kinsman helps kinsman, but woe to him that hath nothing.
20 Honors change manners.
21 He knoweth enough that knoweth no thing, if so be hee know how to hold his peace.
22 A man assaulted is halfe taken.
23 There is more hope of a fole, then of him that is wise in his owne eyes.
24 Old sinne new repentance.
25 Sin that is hidden is halfe forgiuen.
26 An ounce of state requires a pound of gold.

27 He

27 A good life makes a good death.
28 He that can quietly endure overcometh.
29 Fly that pleasure which paineth afterward.
30 Every extremity is a fault.
31 Every question requireth not an answer.
32 Patience is the remedy of sorrow.
33 Conscience serveth for a thousand witnesses.
34 Nature is the true law.
35 All feare is bondage.
36 Things present are iudged by things past.
37 That is well done that is done soone enough.
38 There is a remedy for all doleys but death.
39 The law groweth of sinne, and chastiseth it.
40 The like I say sits with the Jay.
41 Birds of a feather flye together.
52 One man is worthy a hundred, and a hundred are not worthy one.
43 A wise man ought not to be ashamed to alter his purpose.
44 Parnell is the daughter of ignorance.

45 The

45 The deeds are manly, and the words womanly.

46 The more that riches are honoured, the more vertue is despised.

47 Time is the father of Truth, and Experience is the mother of Science.

48 He that soweth vertue shall reape fame.

49 Twice in the fish-market, and late in the butchery.

50 To a good understanding halfe a word is enough.

51 Flyes goes to leane horses.

52 He that hath the world at will seemes wise.

53 Provide a Figge for thy friend, and a Peach for thine enemy.

54 The hearts mirth doth make the face faire.

55 At mariages and burials friends and kinsfolkes be knowne,

56 A deadly disease neyther Physitian nor physicke can ease.

57 The love of a harlot, and wine of a flagzon, is good in the morning enough, in the evening.

58 An Asse pricked must néeds trot.

59 He daunceth well enough, to whom fortune pipeth.

60 He

60 He gaineth enough, whom fortune loseth.

61 A dead Bee maketh no hony.

62 By one and one the spindles are made vp.

63 Fayre words, and wicked deeds, deceiue wise men and fooles.

64 Ill goes the Beast without Dores.

65 An old hand is a Captaines honor.

66 A barking dog seldome bites.

67 An old dog barks not in vaine.

68 A running horse, an open graue.

69 A faire shop and little gaine.

70 He that buyeth deare, and taketh vp on credit shall euer sell to his losse

71 A fire of straw yeelds naught but smoake.

72 He that hunts two Hares oft loseth both.

73 He that is in pouerty is still in su'pition

74 He that hath a good Speare, let him try it.

75 Hee that doth nothing, doth euer amisse.

76 He that doth amisse, may doe well.

77 He that doth ill, hateth the light.

78 He that hath no hart, hath legs.

79 He

79 He that hath no wife beateth her oft.
80 He that hath no children doth bring them up well.
81 He that hath not ſerued knoweth not how to command.
82 He that cannot beat his horſe, beates the ſaddle.
83 He that doth not robb, makes not a robe or garment.
84 Hee that hurts another, hurts himſelfe.
85 A common ſeruant is no mans ſeruant.
86 Hee that ſerues harlots is a ſlaue to ſinne.
87 He that will haue all loſeth all.
88 He that goeth to bed with dogs, riſeth with fleas.
89 He that goes to bed without a ſupper is out of quiet all night.
90 He that goes and comes, maketh a good voyage.
91 He that lieth in Court lyeth vpon ſtraw.
92 Speake no ill of another, vntill thou thinkeſt of thy ſelfe.
93 One crow neuer puls out anothers eyes.

94 From words to deeds is a great space
95 Fol yes wise in her owne eyes.
96 Hard with hard neuer made any good wall.
97 Fayre speech subdueth anger.
98 It is a goodly thing to take two Pigeons with one beane.
99 Fayre Gaynings doe make faire spendings.
100 Mischiefe comes by pounds, & goes away by ounces.
101 Mariners craft is the grossest, yet of handicraft is the subtilest.
102 He whose belly is full beleeues not him that is fasting.
103 The Peach will haue wine, the Fig water.
104 Fish marreth water, and flesh mendeth it.
105 He promiseth mountaines, and performeth mole hils.
106 Promising is the bigill of giuing.
107 More then enough breakes the Coffer.
108 Sparing is the first gaining.
109 Wine by the sauour, Bread by the colour.
110 Experience is sometime dangerous.

111 Make

111 Make mee a diuinor, and I will make thee rich.

112 Fryars obseruants spare their own and eate other mens.

113 A gloued cat can catch no mice.

114 A broken bag can hold no meale.

115 If thou wilt come with mee, bring with me.

116 Offices may well be giuen, but not discretion.

117 Suffer the ill and loke for the good.

118 In the world there be men that will haue the egge, and the henne.

119 Aboue God there is no Lord.

120 Aboue blacke there is no colour, and aboue salt there is no sauor.

121 If it were not for hope heart would breake.

122 Cut off a dogs taile, and he will be a dog still.

123 Naught is that mule that findes no excuse.

124 Naught are those houses where the hen crowes and the cock holds his peace.

125 He is in ill case that giues example to another.

126 Too much hope deceiueth.

127 All drawe water to their owne mill.

128 He

128 Venice, hee that doth not see thee, doth not esteeme thee.

129 Clothe thee warme, eate a little, drinke enough, and thou shalt liue.

130 You want the thing you haue.

131 He liueth that ouer commeth.

132 One hand washeth another, e both wash the face.

133 Will buyeth, and money payeth.

FINIS.

UMI